

Dear FCC,

I am a consumer and viewer of digital television, concerned about the slow progress of the transition. For consumers there are really only 2 benefits to digital television: HDTV and multicasting for more variety of programming. Both of these benefits need to be emphasized more!

As to this issue, one of the benefits of multicasting should be more channels for children. I would expect as a minimum that stations should be able to make a choice: Full time HDTV or else full time multicasting.

Those in the former group could continue under the old rules for analog, or new improved ones, taking into account they have one broadcast stream.

For those in the latter group, It would seem wise to require at least 2 program streams for children, during certain hours such that one was aimed at the very young, and the other at children up through the teens.

Hours total should be increased, since they would not detract from the main program streams.

For stations doing a mix of HDTV and regular tv, the proportion of each should control to what extent they have to follow the rules for more coverage here. ie: a station with 50% HDTV would have to have 2 childrens streams, during hours it was not doing HDTV, and for hours equal to 50% of what would be required for a full time multicasting station.

It goes without saying that stations must choose one of the two approaches or a mix, and must not be allowed to broadcast on a permanent basis only 1 program stream of SD material.